



Atty. Docket: IP-6084

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Continued Prosecution Application of:

Wadood Hamad et al. : Group Art Unit: 1731

Serial No.: 09/838,463 : Examiner: Alvo, M.S.

Filed: April 19, 2001

Title: METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING PAPER AND
PAPERBOARD USING FRACTURE TOUGHNESS
MEASUREMENT

Hon. Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Final Rejection dated April 11, 2003 in the above-referenced patent application, the Applicants are filing herewith a Request for Continued Prosecution Application. Prior to examination of this Continued Prosecution Application, the Applicants request that the following amendments be entered.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 10-14, 17, 19 and 20; and amend claims 15, 18, and 21-24 to read as follows:

15. (Amended) A method for manufacturing paper/paperboard, comprising the following steps:

(a) manufacturing paper/paperboard product of a particular grade having a first set of respective values for a plurality of material properties that affect fracture toughness;